

## Iraq allows 10 Italians to leave

AMMAN (R) — Ten Italian men arrived in Jordan on an Iraqi Airways flight Wednesday after Baghdad freed them on health grounds. "I am very happy to have these 10 people out," legislator Mario Capanna of Italy's Greens Party, who travelled with the party after visiting Iraq, told reporters at Amman airport. Italian Ambassador to Jordan Franco de Courten said the men, seven from Iraq and three from Kuwait, were all in poor health and that Iraq had let them fly out as a humanitarian gesture. They were the first group of Western men allowed to leave Iraq or Kuwait since U.S. politician Jesse Jackson brought 10 sick Americans out of Kuwait Sept. 2. Italy said earlier the release of the 10 would leave 310 Italians still in Iraq and 40 in Kuwait. Iraq is allowing Western and Japanese women and children to leave but is keeping most of their menfolk as deterrents against possible attack. Capanna said Italians still in Iraq were "under stress but the morale is high." The situation in Baghdad was "very normal, orderly."

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## Khamenei declares jihad against U.S.

Combien agency despatches

BAHRAM — Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Wednesday called for a holy war against the United States and said Muslims who die fighting the U.S. presence in the region would go to heaven as Islamic martyrs.

Speaking on Tehran Radio, Khamenei said: "Muslim nations will not allow America to set up its security and defence system in the region."

"The struggle against American aggression, greed, plans and policies in the 'Persian Gulf will be counted as jihad (holy war), and anybody who is killed on that path is a martyr," he said on the radio, monitored in Nicosia.

America should have learned its lesson from past events and its vulnerable presence," he added.

Khamenei's remarks were

much the fiercest denunciation so far by Tehran of the Western-led military buildup. Iran has also attacked Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and said it will observe United Nations sanctions.

The radio did not say when Khamenei was speaking.

Khamenei, who took over from the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in 1989, said the preservation of regional security rested mainly on the countries of the Gulf.

"As on previous occasions we declare our preparedness to cooperate with the countries of the Persian Gulf region to restore security and to cut off the hands of those who commit aggression against the right of others."

Khamenei's remarks came three days after Iraq Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz met with his Iranian counterpart in Tehran. It was the first such visit by a high-ranking Iraqi official since

the start of the Gulf war a decade ago.

Diplomatic sources said the visit was part of Iraq's efforts to break the economic blockade preventing the import of food and other supplies and the export of oil, its chief source of revenue.

A source in Tehran said Iran had agreed to sell food and medicine to Iraq (see page 2).

"We must inform all Muslim countries in the region that we oppose the American presence... its covetous designs," Khamenei said. "We greatly oppose the demanding, bullying and ugly spirit of American policy."

Tehran Radio quoted Khamenei as saying: "We are vehemently opposed to the presence of America in the Persian Gulf region as well as to its constantly increasing greed and its shameless policy in the region."

Khamenei said the solution to the current crisis should be left in the hands of countries in the region.

The Tehran Times said on Wednesday that Iran was considering supplying food and medicine to Iraq and offering Baghdad an unspecified "outlet" in return.

The newspaper, close to Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, published its report as non-aligned and industrial nations argued at the United Nations over whether shipping humanitarian food aid to Baghdad represented sanctions-busting.

Tehran Radio quoted Khamenei as saying: "We are vehemently opposed to the presence of America in the Persian Gulf region as well as to its constantly increasing greed and its shameless policy in the region."

"What right do they have to say they must safeguard the security of the region, and that the continued security of the region requires them to be here, what business is it of theirs?" he asked.

## Bush prepares U.S. for long stand-off

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

President George Bush videotaped an eight-minute message to the Iraqi people Wednesday and the White House urged Baghdad to air it within five days, saying the television message would be released around the world after that.

"Saddam Hussein will fall," Bush said of the Iraqi president. "That's not a threat or boast, that's just the way it's going to be."

INA, a dispatch from Baghdad Wednesday, said Saddam met a number of air force and air defense officers. But it gave no details of what was discussed.

"We expect that Iraq will honor our invitation to allow this to be addressed to the Iraqi people, and we will ask them to provide us an air time within the next five days," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said.

"After the five-day period the tape is not aired, then we will go ahead and make it available to the world's news media," he added.

"Obviously, if it's aired any time during that period why we'll simultaneously make it available as well."

Fitzwater declined to go into specific details of Bush's message, but described it as personal and sympathetic of the hardships Iraq faces because of a worldwide ban on trade with their country.

"Essentially, it repeats some of the themes that the president expressed (in his speech to a joint session of congress) last night," he said.

Bush emphasised that "we have no quarrel with the Iraqi people, that the Iraqi government has forced incredible hardships on the people of Iraq by virtue of their naked aggression against Kuwait, that we are in the 'Persian' Gulf to defend Saudi Arabia, and that we want a peaceful resolution, we want peaceful coexistence with the people of Iraq," the presidential spokesman added.

The United Nations Security Council ordered economic sanctions after Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. Bush also ordered a massive U.S. military buildup in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region.

(Continued on page 5)

## Iraq vows not to bow to U.S.

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq, vowing to retreat from U.S. military pressure or blackmail, Wednesday denounced a speech to congress by U.S. President George Bush and accused him of wanting to take over the world.

"The U.S. president's address is a model speech by an imperialist ruler who wants to impose his power on the world," said Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz.

"Most of the globe's peoples, the Arabs in the forefront, reject that and insist on preserving their independence and free will," said Aziz, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA).

An INA commentary, monitored in Cyprus, said: "a hostile evil trend still dominates this man's (Bush's) mentality... and his personal desire to lead the world on his own."

It added: "Bush must understand that threats, betting on the time factor, and blackmail through U.S. decisions issued by the U.N. Security Council will not make Iraq retreat in the face of U.S. arrogance in any cir-

cumstances."

Addressing a joint session of Congress Tuesday after summit talks in Helsinki with President Mikhail Gorbachev, Bush said Iraq would be forced to quit Kuwait following its invasion Aug. 2.

"Saddam Hussein will fall," Bush said of the Iraqi president. "That's not a threat or boast, that's just the way it's going to be."

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## U.N. to urge immediate sanctions aid

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The U.N. Security Council committee studying assistance to countries adversely affected by the council's imposed sanctions on Iraq, Wednesday appealed in a draft resolution to all states to provide immediate technical, financial and material assistance to Jordan to alleviate the difficulties the country is facing through adherence to the resolution 661.

The committee's recommendations included requesting the United Nations and specialized agencies as well as humanitarian agencies to help Jordan in its present economic situation to intensify their programmes of assistance in response to the pressing needs of Jordan.

The draft paper expressed concern at the "unique economic difficulties as a result of the severance of the close economic relations between Jordan, Iraq and occupied Kuwait as required by resolution 661."

The draft urged that Jordan be "commended" for the measures it has taken to "fully comply with resolution 661."

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He specifically accused Cuba of causing the deadlock and called it "an anti-humanitarian gesture of the first order."

The committee, which consists of the same 15 nations that make up the Security Council, deadlocked on competing proposals on the food aid issue.

The five permanent Security Council members — the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and China — wanted to set out general principles allowing food distribution to foreigners and children.

"It appears as if a couple of members of the sanctions committee are using the consensus rule to hold up progress, so we want to move... to the Security Council," said U.S. Ambassador

Perez de Cuellar would send a team to Iraq and Kuwait to see if emergency food is needed.

Countries sending medical aid would be required to ensure that supplies reached the intended recipients instead of the Iraqi army.

Cuba and Yemen, however, were holding out for a resolution that would have allowed India to send a ship loaded with 10 million kilogrammes of food to Iraq and Kuwait. The only exceptions are medical goods and, in humanitarian circumstances, food.

The Philippines also has appealed for permission to send food to about 5,000 Filipinos stranded in Kuwait.

Yemen's ambassador, Moha-

## Aga Khan appointed as de Cuellar's personal representative

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Wednesday appointed Sadruddin Aga Khan as his personal representative for humanitarian assistance relating to the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait and in particular the problems of the Third World countries' nationals.

In a memorandum submitted to the council then, Jordan said it would face special economic problems within the meaning of article 50 of the U.N. charter. Article 50 allows countries affected by sanctions to appeal the problem with the Security Council and apply for compensations.

This decision was taken by the secretary-general "given the multi-faceted nature of the problem and the magnitude of the challenge and to contain the human suffering as far as possible," U.N. sources said.

"We would like to have an interpretation which is more generous, which would allow basic foods to be supplied, especially to the weak in society, an to all civilians," he said. On Aug. 6, four days after Iraq took over Kuwait, the Security Council imposed a trade embargo on Iraq and Kuwait. The only exceptions are medical goods and, in humanitarian circumstances, food.

The Philippines also has appealed for permission to send food to about 5,000 Filipinos stranded in Kuwait.

Under the U.S.-sponsored plan, Secretary-General Javier

mand Abdul Aziz Sallam, said the U.S. position "is a very narrow interpretation of humanitarian circumstances."

"We would like to have an interpretation which is more generous, which would allow basic foods to be supplied, especially to the weak in society, an to all civilians," he said. On Aug. 6, four days after Iraq took over Kuwait, the Security Council imposed a trade embargo on Iraq and Kuwait. The only exceptions are medical goods and, in humanitarian circumstances, food.

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## King, Arafat discuss Gulf

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday held talks with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat on the Gulf crisis.

The two leaders discussed

"efforts to achieve a political

settlement of the Gulf crisis with

in an Arab framework," the Jordan News Agency, Petra said.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran attended the meeting, along with Arafat's number two Salah Khalaf and PLO Executive Committee member Abdullah Hourani.

Arafat said he had briefed the

King on the PLO search for an

Arab solution to the Gulf crisis

and discussed how it was affecting

the Palestinian uprising.

Jordan and the PLO have

sought a negotiated solution to

the Gulf crisis.

They did not attend a meeting in Cairo on Monday at which 12 Arab states endorsed plans to move the Arab League's base

back to Cairo.

The PLO wants an ordinary league meeting originally due in Cairo next Monday to re-examine the transfer. The Cairo meeting voted to defer the ordinary session to Sept. 27.

Arafat left Rabat Tuesday after

talks with King Hassan of Morocco

on the Gulf crisis and the rift in

the Arab League over the relocation

of its headquarters.

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The PLO said Wednesday

Moscow's stand at Sunday's sup-

erpower summit in Helsinki

would aid peaceful solutions to

the Gulf crisis and the Middle

East conflict.

"The results of the Helsinki

summit reflected calls for easing

the military danger in which the

Soviet side stressed the need to

give more of a chance to political

solutions," a PLO Executive

Committee statement said.

"This opens new horizons to

the Gulf crisis and that of

the Middle East, in particular the

Palestinian question which has

been burning for dozens of

years."

U.S. President George Bush

and Soviet President Mikhail

Gorbachev agreed to find a political

solution to the Gulf crisis.

The PLO said Washington was

"continuing to beat the war drum

(against Iraq)... and to persist in

separating the Gulf crisis from

the Palestinian question and to reject

an international peace conference."

## 'Iran, Iraq agree to swap food for oil'

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran has agreed to sell food and medicine to Iraq for oil and cash, a well-informed source said from Tehran. Such a deal could puncture the U.N. blockade aimed at forcing Iraq out of Kuwait.

Speaking in a telephone interview late Tuesday, the Iranian source told the Associated Press that Tehran has agreed to an Iraqi request to exchange food, medicine and other essentials for oil and cash.

There was no official comment from Tehran or Baghdad on the reported food-for-oil deal. But the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said it was struck during a visit Sunday by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz.

Since Iraq invaded Kuwait last month it has sought a formal settlement to its eight-year war with Iran that ended in a ceasefire in 1988. The two countries exchanged prisoners of war, and Iraq withdrew its troops from Iran and dropped its territorial demands.

The move freed up Iraqi troops along the 1,080-kilometre Iranian border for possible redeployment in the Gulf crisis and was seen as helping Baghdad break out of its isolation.

On Monday Iran said it plans to renew diplomatic relations with Iraq.

The Tehran Times reported in an editorial Wednesday that Iran was "studying the issue of providing food and medicine to Iraq."

The English-language daily, which reflects government think-

ing, said "once Iran finalised its decision and starts shipping food and medicine to Iraq, political circles here believe, Iraq will have an outlet in its present strapped situation."

Iranian officials are convinced that the Muslim Iraqi people should not pay for the mistakes of their government. Iraqi children and women have had no role in the occupation of Kuwait by Baghdad troops," the paper added.

But it made no mention of oil in return.

Facing international isolation and a U.N.-supported economic embargo following its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, Iraq has been desperately seeking ways of beating the sanctions.

Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani said last month Iran would enforce the sanctions. But before the Aziz visit, Tehran newspapers noted that by supplying food and medicine to Iraq, Iran would not be contravening the sanctions, which permit humanitarian aid.

China last week indicated a desire to send food and medicine to Iraq, saying such shipments would constitute humanitarian aid and would not defy the embargo.

Tehran has condemned the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait and called for immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait. But it also opposes the buildup of U.S. and other forces in the Gulf since the invasion.

On Monday, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein sought to punch

holes in the embargo by offering free oil to developing nations. The United States called that an act of desperation.

Cuba and Romania have struck oil deals with Iraq and companies elsewhere are trying to continue trade with Baghdad, according to a U.S. State Department report.

The report said some economically troubled Eastern European countries also are trying to maintain military sales to Baghdad.

Azz, the first senior Iraqi official to visit Iran in 15 years, was accompanied by Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Chalabi.

Iraq had offered to pay Iran in oil for commodities. Tehran allowed across the border, the Iranian source said. He added that the Iranians refused to accept full payment in oil, but agreed to take up to 200,000 barrels of refined oil a day.

Well-informed oil industry sources in the region said that although Iran is a major oil exporter itself, it currently has to import about 150,000 barrels of refined oil a day for domestic use.

Iranian refineries, damaged in the 1980-88 war with Iraq, are unable to meet the domestic daily consumption of 750,000 barrels.

The oil industry sources said Iraq's Bazargan oilfields, or a refinery in Basra only 20 kilometers from the border, could be used to supply that oil.

Convoys of trucks, used in the war to transport Iraqi oil to Jordan and Turkey for export and now lying idle, "could easily carry 200,000 barrels of oil a day," one oil expert said.

## Maksoud says Arab splits, crisis behind resignation

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The envoy of the Arab League formally announced Tuesday that he was resigning because he could no longer represent the organisation deeply divided over the Gulf crisis and the massive presence of foreign troops.

Colvin Maksoud, representative of the 21-member league, told a news conference that he could not reconcile his own convictions with wide Arab acceptance of U.S. and foreign forces following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

He said that he wanted "breathing space" to permit an Arab solution to what he called an Arab problem, including a significant Arab military force to replace the U.S.-spearheaded military operation, which includes some Arab troops, in Saudi Arabia.

The wound inflicted on Kuwait should not lead to amputation of part of the Arab body politic," he said, calling the current inter-Arab crisis an "interruption" to be resolved as soon as possible.

Arabs are losing credibility be-

cause of their failure to act, and should seek a "third way" between accepting Iraqi domination and accepting U.S. military opposition, he said.

He said he wanted to see "a preponderant Arab presence" in the Gulf conflict, adding, "we (Arabs) run the risk of being perpetually marginalised" if there is no decisive action.

He said that he favoured withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, restoration of the former government of Kuwait, withdrawal of foreign forces and a temporary deployment of Arab troops as reassurance to states in the region. He said he wanted dialogue between Iraq and Kuwait.

But Maksoud did not criticise Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, saying, "I do not want to see Iraq ostracised."

Maksoud, a Lebanese scholar who has represented the league for 11 years at the United Nations and in Washington, said he had sought unsuccessfully to resign in August because of personal fatigue and philosophical differences.



Colvin Maksoud

On Tuesday he reaffirmed his resignation, but said he would stay on at the Arab League's official representative until a new envoy was chosen.

Earlier this month, Chadi Khil of Tunisia, secretary-general of the Arab League, resigned his post, and some diplomats said he was upset about the decision to move the Arab League headquarters to Cairo.

Maksoud said, however, that his own decision had nothing to do with the Cairo move.

## Southern Sudanese seek to end war

KHARTOUM (AP) — Leaders from southern Sudan are trying to set aside their tribal differences and band together to seek ways of ending the civil war that has ravaged their region for seven years.

But the southerners never have been united, even in their opposition of the north, and many believe that the conflict cannot be ended unless the southerners begin cooperating among themselves.

More than 100 politicians from the south are involved in the current search for peace. Many were political prisoners until their release this summer.

Pie Yukwan Deng, the chief organiser, is one of three southerners in the 15-member military junta that has ruled Sudan since June 30, 1989.

Deng, a Christian who served with Lagu's rebels in the 1960s, told the rally: "We must have our say in the peacemaking in this country. Without southerners coming together, peace cannot be realised in Sudan."

Southerners never have united, even in the cause of secession. For 17 years, Lagu led the Anyanya movement, whose main support came from relatively minor tribes in the huge Equatoria region. The organisation's name denotes the poison of the Gabon viper.

Nearly all the rebels of the current Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) are Dinka, the south's main tribe.

### Suspect in scandal implicates Deri

TEL AVIV (R) — A suspect in a corruption scandal rocking Israel was Wednesday that transcripts of an illegal wiretap were delivered to Interior Minister Arye Deri.

It was the latest in a string of allegations that Deri and aides in his ultra-religious Shas Party misused public money and ordered a tap on telephone conversations between police chief Yaakov Turner and a journalist investigating Deri.

Deri has criticised Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Police Minister Rounie Milo for allegedly letting police leak details of their investigation to reporters.

But Deri has denied rumoured threats to quit Shamir's right-wing coalition.

"I asked him why and he said: 'We don't need the company name on this.'

"They asked me to wipe the transcript from my computer memory, I wiped it... he took that envelope. His brother Yehuda asked, 'where are you going?' and he said, 'I'm going to Jerusalem to minister Deri to give him the material,'" Hamra added.

Hamra said a court order barred him from describing the tape's contents.

Israeli news reports said Deri is suspected of funneling ministry money to charities which were fronts run by his relatives and that he and his brother allegedly received unaccounted-for funds to buy private property.

State comptroller Miriam Ben Porat earlier this year reported that Shas had nominated for government grants charities which

subsequently passed the cash back to party funds.

Davar newspaper said Wednesday that a new report by Ben Porat said the Shas party gave soft loans to its members of parliament to buy private cars.

Davar said the report had been due out this week but publication was delayed at Shas' request.

Deri, 31, denies any knowledge of wrongdoing and says the police investigation was prompted by ethnic and anti-religious bias against Shas, which represents religious Jews of North African origin.

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### Levy says Soviet role welcome

(Continued from page 1)  
Edvard Shevardnadze raised the idea.

But Bush and Baker, eager for Soviet cooperation against Iraq, said subsequently that a conference on the Middle East would be appropriate under certain conditions.

The official concurred. "At the appropriate time, we'd be in favour of it," he said. "It can be helpful."

But, he stressed, the United

States would be the judge of when conditions were right.

First, he said, the basis for negotiations would have to be "substantially developed." And, he said, "the conference would have to be properly structured, moving towards negotiations in a bilateral way."

The idea that the United States would judge the timing, and that the negotiations would remain in the hands of Israel and the Arabs, is bound to please Israel.

### Jordan urges Iraq

(Continued from page 1)  
was paying to help Bangladeshis and other Muslims trapped in Jordan.

Salameh Hammad, head of the government task force handling the flood of evacuees, said Shas, the biggest and worst of three camps in a neutral zone

### Jordan urges better coordination

(Continued from page 1)  
A general briefing on the current situation of the evacuees was presented by Salameh Hammad, secretary-general of the Ministry of Interior, who chairs a government committee to oversee the relief operations in the country.

N. Vassilios from the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) also presented a brief on the situation, and Dr. Ali Attia, the U.N. resident coordinator, spoke about U.N. efforts to deal with the crisis.

between Iraq and the Ruweish border post would be shut within 24 hours.

He said the camp would close by Thursday to be replaced by a reception centre to be set up nearby. Evacuees would stay a few hours before moving to centres for various nationalities.

### Mideast will never be the same

(Continued from page 1)

power structure, making it harder than ever to solve conflicts in Israel and Lebanon.

"Iraq's aggression towards Kuwait destroyed the hard-won solidarity of the Arab camp and diverted the international community from a solution to the problems of Palestine and Lebanon," said Andreotti, whose country currently holds the EC presidency.

In his address to the meeting Prince Hassan expressed hope that the resolutions of the U.N. Security Council would not add further burdens on Jordan's economy and emphasised the importance of coordination among various countries and organisations to aid the evacuees.

## Guns in Saudi town bring U.S.-disputes to surface

DHAHRAN (AP) — The Saudi government has complained to the U.S. military about the growing number of uniformed American troops visiting Saudi towns carrying weapons, officials said.

The formal complaint, the significance of which both Saudi and U.S. officials sought to downplay, comes amid growing signs that the American presence is causing some cultural strain in towns located closest to American troop deployments.

"We of course welcome the Americans and appreciate their assistance but there needs to be more sensitivity," a Saudi official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity. "There is no need to carry weapons into town and we are asking that they not do this."

A military spokesman, Michael Sherman, said all American military personnel had been instructed to, when possible, wear civilian clothes while visiting Saudi towns and to not carry weapons.

He said those instructions will be circulated again in light of the Saudi complaint. But he said it is inevitable that some troops sent into towns suddenly or on certain official business could carry weapons.

That has prompted a number of recent complaints from Saudis to the government of the kingdom's Eastern Province, the northeast sector of the country where most American troops are deployed.

"We have asked that they leave their machine guns behind when they go into town," said the Saudi official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Another Saudi official said the Eastern province government also has been questioned in recent days about American military women driving in the streets.

Women are prohibited from driving in Saudi Arabia.

"They are inquiries rather than complaints," said the official, who also spoke on the condition he not be identified.

U.S. military officials have said women would be confined to driving on military installations and in their camps, but there have been occasions when women have been seen driving military vehicles in Saudi towns.

The complaint and inquiries were not totally unexpected.

Both Saudi and American officials said some conflicts are inevitable as some 100,000 American troops settle in a culture far different than anything they have experienced.

These officials said they have been pleasantly surprised that such incidents have been kept to a minimum.

But in recent days there have been other signs of strain as well in the relations between the American military and their Saudi hosts.

Many military decisions are deferred to the Saudis because of their sovereignty, but Americans have been irritated by a few public statements by Saudi officials.

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Many military decisions

## Mennonites condemn use of 'food as a weapon'

By Ica Wahbeh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The agreement this week between the superpowers that food and medicine could be permitted to enter Iraq "in humanitarian circumstances" was only a reaffirmation of one of the key elements in the United Nations Security Council resolution calling for international sanctions against Baghdad; but the superpower accord could go a long way in weakening the American-led campaign to choke off supplies to Iraq, according to observers.

The U.N. Security Council must define "humanitarian circumstances," but in the meantime some nations and mostly charitable organisations from all over the world had offered their services to people affected by the crisis in the Gulf, namely the Iraqi children threatened with starvation by the tight blockade the United States mustered around Iraq, and the massive number of evacuees that had flooded Jordan since Iraq's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2.

True to their creed, the Mennonite Central Committee, a relief and development agency of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches, has not only condemned the military build-up in the Gulf but also denounced the use of "food as a weapon."

The Mennonites, who have a record of extending food aid to the Vietnamese during the American-led siege of Vietnam in the late 1960s, said "we believe it is wrong to withhold food from people."

"As an agency of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches, who oppose war and militarism, Mennonite Central Committee deplores the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the enormous build up of military force in the region," said a statement issued by the committee.

"We oppose the holding of innocent foreigners against their will in Iraq and Kuwait. We encourage efforts to bring about a negotiated, peaceful resolution of this cri-

sis under U.N. leadership. We support that which makes for peace and for mutual up-building."

"As an organisation responding to human need in the name of Christ, we oppose the inclusion of food and medicines in the embargo against Iraq. We believe Jesus' words, 'Give them to Eat', is a call to share food with the hungry irrespective of race, religion or political persuasion. Much of our work internationally is aimed at improving poor people's access to food. Access to food is a basic human right enshrined in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. The withholding of food as a method of warfare is prohibited by international law (Article 54 of Protocol II Additional to the Geneva Conventions, 1977).

"The U.N. resolution applying economic sanctions to Iraq and Kuwait, reflecting international agreement against the use of food as a weapon, permits Iraq and Kuwait to receive "supplies intended strictly for medical purposes and, in humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs". However, the United States and other nations seem prepared to use the withholding of food as a weapon to bring down the government of Iraq. President Bush, when asked whether food should be included in the embargo, replied that he hoped everything would be prevented from entering Iraq.

A State Department official said that, while the United States does not intend to starve the people of Iraq, they want to make them tighten their belts over the next few months.

"We believe it is a morally wrong to keep food from hungry people. We call on the international community and the government of the United States to ensure that the people of Iraq and Kuwait are not deprived of adequate food and medical supplies."

In an interview with the Jordan Times Ed Martin, Mennonite Central Committee secretary for the Middle East and South Asia, who came to Jordan

dan to oversee the work of the agency, said that volunteers working for the organisation were providing natural or man-made disaster relief with emphasis on development: agricultural, small industry, education, health, social services.

As far as trying to reach the U.S. government to influence policy-makers, Martin said the agency's office in Washington had met with State Department officials and stressed its opposition to withholding food.

The agency operates in 50 countries, including Jordan, the occupied Arab territories, Egypt and Lebanon in the Middle East. In Jordan the agency has been working since the 1950s in agreement with the Ministry of Social Development. Support, according to Martin, comes from churches.

In the wake of the Gulf crisis, with the flow of evacuees straining the already meager resources of Jordan, the Mennonite committee, together with the Middle East Council of Churches, the Catholic Relief Service, the Anglican Church, the Pontifical Mission and the International Save the Children Organisation started working with evacuees around Amman, providing them with food and bedding.

The services are provided to the evacuees in the Mercy Camp in Ruweisheit too. According to Martin, the organisation is prepared to help the large number of people and contemplates bringing in extra volunteers to work with evacuees.

"We realise that the most critical need is to move these people out fast," Martin said. In the meantime though, the agency is cooperating with international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with the purpose to alleviate the misery of the thousands of evacuees stranded in Jordan.

Asked if the agency would breach the embargo and supply food to the Iraqis, Martin said the only way to send food would be through the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) which has already started working with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) to speed up the evacuation process.

## House extraordinary session ends

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal decree was issued Wednesday ending the Lower House of Parliament's extraordinary session as of Sept. 15, 1990. The Parliament, which went into recess after the end of the ordinary session on Sept. 27, reconvened by a Royal decree in an extraordinary session on June 2, in accordance with articles one and two of law 82 of the constitution.

The Royal decree on the extraordinary session specified the topics and laws to be debated by the Lower House in addition to such questions as the Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine, economic policy, prices and unemployment, the country's educational and information policies, issues referred to the Financial Committee of the Lower House and a report by the audit bureau for the years 1987-1988.

On June 16 the Lower House endorsed a law which exempts Jordanian expatriates and their sons from compulsory military service in return for a payment of an amount which was later decided by the Cabinet at \$6,000 per person.

The Lower House, which was elected in November 1989, is scheduled to reconvene in a regular session in October. His Majesty the King delivers a speech from the throne opens the session.

British minister to assess further aid for evacuees

## Masaadeh: delay in assisting evacuees politically motivated

AMMAN (J.T.) — Response to Jordan's appeals for help to deal with the question of tens of thousands of evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait was not up to the level of the human tragedy at hand, and the Kingdom fears that lack or delay in providing help in this matter is politically motivated, Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masaadeh said Wednesday.

"Jordan is a small country, with very limited resources, living under very difficult economic conditions, and is in bad need of help to deal with the question of the evacuees," said Masaadeh at a meeting with visiting British Minister for Overseas Development Lynda Chalker.

In outlining to the British Minister Jordan's efforts to accommodate, feed and transport the tens of thousands of Arab and foreign expatriates fleeing the Gulf, the minister said that the government sought to help the repatriation of these evacuees within the shortest possible time,

but at the same time it was struggling to provide food, medicine and shelter to them while they were staying in Jordan.

Masaadeh said that voluntary and charitable organisations in Jordan, foreign embassies and international organisations were doing their best but more aid was required, and Jordan had been promised more help from the



Salem Masaadeh

aid to Jordan to help it shoulder this immense burden and to help repatriate the evacuees as soon as possible.

Chalker, who arrived here Tuesday evening on a three-day visit, said that she would do all she could to secure British relief supplies to Jordan.

Chalker later conferred with Minister of Planning Khalid Amin Abdulla, reviewing with him scopes of bilateral cooperation in development and economic fields. She also discussed the situation in the Gulf and the adverse effects of the Gulf crisis on Jordan's economy.

The British minister also met Dr. Ahmad Abu Qura, president of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRC) which is organising relief operations in cooperation with foreign organisations.

Following the meeting with Abu Qura, it was announced that the British government was donating 500,000 pounds to JNRC through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as part of Britain's contribution to the adverse effects of the Gulf crisis on Jordan.

She said her visit here aimed at enabling her to have a close look at the situation of the evacuees.

Chalker said that her country was concerned over the situation and would do everything in its power to help Jordan.

She said her visit here aimed at enabling her to have a close look at the situation of the evacuees.

According to the British Embassy here, Chalker is making the visit to supervise the British contribution to the relief operation for the evacuees in Jordan and to assess what further assistance was needed.

## YWCA appeals to the world to work for peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — The youth committee of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in Jordan Wednesday issued an appeal to the world YWCA associations and all international organisations and peace movements worldwide to give heed to the calls of children of the Middle East crying out for peace, justice and human rights.

The emphasis, as in the case of the Mennonite Church, is, according to the council official, on evacuating people from the camps as soon as possible. But, "we are also ready to mobilise international opinion to assist in the evacuation process," said Chelliah.

After the appeal to the international community, "many countries are willing to provide assistance," say the officials at the council, who are now coordinating with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) to speed up the evacuation process.

The appeal called on all organisations to listen to the voice of the Iraqi children now, at a time when world leaders are planning a summit conference on children on Sept. 29 at the U.N. headquarters in New York. "The summit will discuss the survival, protection and development of children while certain countries of the world are causing the suffering of the Iraqi children through the indiscriminate embargo on

their milk, food and medication," the appeal said.

In its appeal YWCA said that the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child calls on all nations to take feasible measures to ensure the protection and care of children who are affected by an armed conflict.

The appeal called upon the world to work for peace in the Middle East and the Gulf, and stop all human rights violations in Palestine, Lebanon and those directed against the Iraqi children. The appeal asked the United Nations to lift the embargo on milk, food and medicine destined for Iraqi children, to stop all violations of human rights in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, to find a just solution for the Palestine problem, to find a solution to the Lebanese crisis, and to be a fair mediator in the world.

## Danish church sends aid for refugees

AMMAN (J.T.) — A cargo plane chartered by the Danish Church Aid in coordination with the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) will arrive today with 50 tonnes of relief supplies, worth 1.15 million Danish Kronas. It will land at Amman, Marka Airport carrying 5000 blankets, 350 tents, 24 tons of powder milk, 5,700 kilos of beef luncheon meat, 6,000 kilos of protein biscuits, water purifier tablets and large quantity of syringes for vaccinations (secured through an earlier air lift).

Since the start of the Gulf crisis on Aug. 2 half a million people have streamed into Jordan. Many during the visit here the IOJ delegation will meet with senior Jordanian officials and JPA board members to discuss issues of common concern.

The Prague-based IOJ represents 260,000 journalists from around the world and its meeting here will examine a draft for a new job constitution.

of these people have already been repatriated home, but over one hundred thousand more are still in camps and makeshift centres, along the border area with Iraq and in and around Amman where shortages of food, water, medicines and extreme temperatures exacerbate already severe conditions and strain Jordan's already overstretched resources.

The MECC has launched an urgent emergency relief appeal to help these unfortunate persons, many of whom are mothers and children. MECC has bought from the local Jordanian market so far 5,000 blankets, 500 mattresses, 700 tents, drags, cooking utensils and other relief supplies. Working along with NGOs, UNICEF, and other agencies with the concerned authorities we have attempted to contribute to lessen the plight of refugees.

## Jordan observes 'Arab Child Day'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will observe "Arab Child Day" and will hold activities benefitting children in the first week of the coming month under the slogan "Arab children hand in hand to confront challenges."

This year's activities will focus attention on children's contribution to the nation and on ways to enhance Arab children's sense of national belonging in the face of challenges posed to the Arab Nation, especially under the present difficult circumstances, according to Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Director-General Inam Al Mufi.

She said in a statement that the activities, which will be held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, include programmes on first aid and rescue operations, instructions to children on rationing spending and the importance of shelters in providing protection.

The activities will be carried out through schools and other organisations in cooperation with the Civil Defence Department, Mufi said.

Mufi was speaking after a meeting by NHF-sponsored com-

mittee preparing for the activities, attended by representatives of organisations concerned with children's development.

Queen Noor would like this year's activities to be given special attention and to be related to the present events in Jordan and the Arab region," Mufi said.

She said the Queen attached special importance to the "World Summit on Children," due to open in New York on Sept. 29, and the resolutions on children expected to come out of it, especially those on children of unfortunate areas of the world like Palestine, Lebanon and Sudan.

According to NHF director, the activities in the first week of the coming month will orient children on cultural, health and social matters through seminars to be organised in various parts of the country.

Celebration of the "Arab Child Day" will be observed in Arab countries in response to a decision by the Arab ministers of social affairs, passed in 1982, which said that Oct. 1 of each year should be dedicated to children in the Arab World.

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Rawabdeh meets Indian minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh met Wednesday with Indian Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade V.D.N. Rao and discussed with him bilateral relations in the field of public works and housing as well as several issues related to projects being carried out by Indian firms in Jordan. The meeting was attended by directors of the potash and the phosphates companies and representatives of Indian companies carrying out projects in the Kingdom.

#### Norwegian official to visit Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Norwegian Deputy Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek is due here Monday for a three-day visit and talks with officials on the Middle East issues with particular focus on the plight of the evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait. Vollebaek is a member of the Norwegian Christian Democratic Party, which is traditionally pro-Israel.

## British women appeal for objective assessment of Gulf

AMMAN (J.T.) — British wives and mothers of Jordanians appeal to you to be comprehensive in your assessment of the Gulf crisis, not selective and expedient. Our lives are crucially affected and the survival of Jordan is at stake.

We, British wives and mothers of Jordanians, appeal to you to be comprehensive in your assessment of the Gulf crisis, not selective and expedient. Our lives are crucially affected and the survival of Jordan is at stake.

Within days of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the international community rallied in support of "Operation Desert Shield." The subsequent massive military buildup in the Gulf, fear of war, and the breakdown of Kuwait's infrastructure panicked foreign workers in Iraq and Kuwait to leave. This human stampede is pouring into Jordan at a rate of ten to twenty thousand daily. Jordan, with its population of 3 million, does not have the resources to deal with such vast numbers of evacuees. How can you justify the expenditures of \$43 million a day on a war machine while ignoring this enormous human tragedy?

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITIONS

\* Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30). \* Exhibition displaying posters on environmental control measures of each sector of the environment (air, land and water) at the British Council. \* Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Registration and Research Centre of the Department of Antiquities, Jabal Amman. \* Art exhibition by Salam Kanaan at the Royal Cultural Centre.

#### LECTURE

\* Lecture, in Arabic, entitled "Agricultural Sector in Jordan... Future Look" by Deputy Mohammad Al Akwesh at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:30 p.m.

#### FILM

\* Feature film entitled "The Quiet Man" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.

9,379 leave Jordan Tuesday

AMMAN (Petra) — An official source at the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said Wednesday that the number of evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait leaving from Jordanian airports on Tuesday was 9,379 and the number of unescorted flights for the same day was 40.

The official said the process of transporting evacuees from Jordan to their countries was continuing according to schedules presented by the airlines.

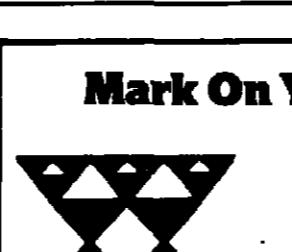
Meanwhile, statistics from the Borders and Foreigners Affairs Department at the Public Security Department said the number of evacuees entering the Kingdom through the different border posts on Tuesday was 15,363 and the number of those leaving on the same day was 17,515.

Reports from Al Ruweisheit border post showed that the number of evacuees entering the country since the crisis began on Aug. 2, when Iraq took over Kuwait, until Wednesday morning was 362,202.

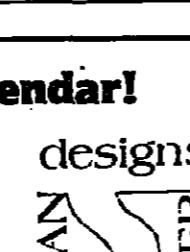
The number of evacuees staying at Al Ruweisheit camps

Tuesday dropped to 21,059 from about 70,000 on Saturday, according to statistics.

### Mark On Your Calendar!



Bani Hamida Weaving



### EXHIBITION

At the Abu Jaber Estate September 28 - October 5



Save the Children.

### The Comprehensive Resort At The DEAD SEA



100 Rooms, Swimming pool, Tennis court, Mini golf, Squash court, Restaurants, Bar, Lounges.

# Jordan Times

## WEEKENDER

Published Every Thursday

Sept. 13, 1990 **A**

### Israeli Arab youth learn about their Oriental music

By Miriam Jordan  
Reuter

**EIN HASHOFET** — The Oriental music that blares from cassette players in Israel's Arab villages is all made in neighbouring Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

Many young Arab Israelis would not even recognise the instruments they are hearing.

"Arabic music in Israel is in a very sad situation," said Taiseer Elias, an internationally known Israeli Arab musician who has helped run the first music camp for the Arab children.

The week-long camp in Ein Hashofet last month introduced 21 talented Arabs, aged 11 to 17, to classical and Arab music for the first time.

"This programme was very

urgent. There's no formal music education at Arab schools," Elias said.

For the 750,000 Arabs in Israel, surrounded by Western culture, learning about their own music is vital to preserving their oriental roots.

Arab classical instruments such as the nai, a bamboo flute, and the kanoon, a string instrument reminiscent of a harp, are disappearing from Israel.

"All these children might know the sound of the kanoon but very few have ever seen the instrument. In a traditional Arabic ensemble, it is always the leader," Elias said.

He said Arab youngsters tended to take up instruments they could learn superficially and then play at social gather-

ings for fast cash — the dorbakkeh, the Arab drum, and the oud, the Arab flute or violin.

"No one ever took interest

in Arab music in Israel," said Raphi Amram, director-general of the Israeli Society for Excellence Through Education which sponsored the music camp.

The week-long camp at a Kibbutz in north Israel was the culmination of almost two years of planning.

The society, an independent non-profit organisation, sponsored a search for talent among youth in Arab communities. Then two girls and 19 boys were chosen from 70 Arab Israeli youths in auditions last year.

"There are many programmes for gifted young Jewish

children but there was no programme in the Arab community... Now maybe one child will get excited and pursue music seriously," Amram told Reuters.

Apart from practice and instruction in Oriental instruments, the curriculum included the principles of improvisation on which Oriental music is based.

Elias, whose formal music training began in university, criticised the Israeli government for not providing music instruction in Arab schools. But he also blamed Arab families.

"If there children want to take up an instrument, they usually encourage them to play an easy instrument so they can start making money at parties," Elias said.

Arab youths who attended the camp were almost all out of dorbakkeh players who had learnt from friends or relatives.

"If you practise some months, you can play the dorbakkeh and earn money, so why learn the kanoon which is much more difficult? Why go to conservatory?" he said.

There is only one small Arab music conservatory in Israel — and it is struggling. The six-year-old conservatory in Tarshiha village near the town of Nahariya in the north, serves 10 villages but has only 70 students.

"It's not easy to attract them," said Nassim Dakkar who runs the school. He said it was difficult to spur interest in music when there was no music culture in the Arab

villages.

"If you don't get exposure, you don't think of music," Dakkar said.

Miguel Herstein, a Jewish Israeli classical guitarist whose compositions blend Eastern and Western music, said Israeli Arab towns lacked musical ensembles.

"There are Oriental concert series. Parents cannot buy a ticket to the Arab Music Festival. Musical growth depends on being able to hear live Arab music," Herstein said.

Two more camps for the same students have been scheduled for school breaks later this year and in 1991. And to carry on new learning back into the community, the youths are organising an Arab music ensemble.

relationship enhancement programme" before they wed two years ago. Today they are expecting their first child.

"A lot of people wondered why we took the course," said Kass.

"But it really helped us get our marriage off on the right foot."

The Pattersons didn't want to waste time bickering about the banal: Finances, tardiness, who interrupted whom.

"Women are trained throughout their lives on how to talk things out and express feelings," said Kass, 30, a legal secretary. "I am still more the one that pulls things out of John, but since the course he's much more vocal."

Each also better understands what the other is trying to say.

"You become aware of the differences in the way you argue," Kass said. "Sometimes there's no changing the other person, but understanding eases the frustration."

Decoding the ways men and women communicate is not only helpful on the home front, sociolinguists said.

Gender-based conflicts can be resolved in the workplace as well.

Take, for instance, the way in which a male employee interpreted an order from Barbara Meade, co-owner of the Politics and Prose Bookstore in Washington.

"I wanted him to do some specific tasks having to do with bookkeeping... and though it was understood," Meade recalled.

"But apparently... he thought I was asking if he'd be willing to do it."

Tannen reached that conclusion after studying hundreds of hours of videotaped conversations between men and women, and between boys and girls.

"Men and women grow up in different worlds," Tannen said in a recent interview. "It's utterly essential that people accept and understand the differences. Otherwise we end up blaming each other."

Over 15 years of research, Tannen said she's seen clear conversational patterns emerge. Men use talk primarily to communicate a desire or goal, while women consider exchanges important in and of themselves, she said.

"It's like speaking English and French. It's not that one is better than the other," said Robin Lakoff, a linguist at the University of California at Berkeley. "They are just different."

Similarly, she said, "women often feel a relationship is working if you're talking about it. Men feel it's working if you're not talking about it."

"A lot of men feel that a woman's insistence on talking things out is like a dog hanging onto a bone," said Tannen, who teaches in Washington, D.C. "But for women, talk is the glue that holds relationships together."

These are stereotypes, but sociolinguists said they apply more often than not. Since the publication of her book this spring, Tannen said she has received scores of telephone calls and letters from fans of her theory.

"Misunderstood gender differences in one of the biggest causes of divorce," said Howard Markman, who directs the University of Denver's Centre for Marital and Family Studies.

"It's a pervasive problem... but couples who learn how to understand each other can successfully improve their chances of having a happy marriage," he said.

John and Kass Patterson did. The Denver couple took Markman's "premarital rela-

## "Misunderstood gender differences — biggest cause for divorce"

By Leslie Dreyfous  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Eleanor and Isaac Culick are both the kind of people who take time to chat with strangers, but they were barely speaking to each other when their 12-year marriage broke up in 1971.

"He was a lecturer. It

seemed that every time he spoke to me, it was a critique," said Eleanor. "I don't think he... was the type of person who could share experiences and emotions and feelings."

"All I ever did was listen," said Isaac, who is remarried.

"She was going to have things her way. I couldn't reach Eleanor. It's amazing. People can live together but can't talk things out."

The Culick's story is not unique. And in her new Best-seller, "You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation," Georgetown University sociolinguist Deborah Tannen

suggests why:

"Because men and women are regarding the landscape from contrasting vantage points, the same scene can appear very different to them, and they often have opposite interpretations of the same action."

No one is to blame, the author cautions — it's just that people of different genders generally speak different languages.

Tannen reached that conclusion after studying hundreds of hours of videotaped conversations between men and women, and between boys and girls.

"Men and women grow up in different worlds," Tannen said in a recent interview. "It's utterly essential that people accept and understand the differences. Otherwise we end up blaming each other."

Both bosses may be issuing an order, she said, but a male employee likely will interpret a female boss's request as optional, while a female employee will often find her male boss's style unnecessarily peremptory.

"It's like speaking English and French. It's not that one is better than the other," said Robin Lakoff, a linguist at the University of California at Berkeley. "They are just different."

Gender studies experts, whose field has blossomed since the late 1970s, said the communication gap is rooted in childhood. Boys and girls generally play separately and interact differently, researchers said.

"Boys' groups are hierarchical and activities-oriented," Tannen said. "Girls' groups tend to be egalitarian, smaller. They tend to have one best friend and spend a lot of time telling secrets."

When they grow up, women often expect their mates to be that same best friend, which often baffles men more comfortable with locker room towel-snapping than sharing secrets.

Tannen said couples can reach a happy medium with time, patience and compromise. But it will take a lot more to change the fundamental mindsets that separate men and women, researchers said.

"The kinds of language differences, we see, reflect real differences in the way men and women are in the world," said Penny Eckert of the Institute for Research on Learning in Palo Alto, California.

### Thoughts for this week

There is nothing so powerful as the truth, and often nothing so strange — Daniel Webster, U.S. statesman (1782-1852).

In politics, an absurdity is not a handicap — Napoleon Bonaparte, French Emperor-General (1769-1821).

Repetition does not transform a lie into truth — Franklin Delano Roosevelt, U.S. president (1882-1945).

I never think of the future. It comes soon enough — Albert Einstein, German-born physicist (1879-1955).

We must beware of trying to build a society in which nobody counts for anything except a politician or an official — Sir Winston Churchill, British statesman (1874-1965).



Back in the Himalayas for the summer, comedian Mike Harding deplores the pollution of this pristine environment by tourists and natives.

### Teachers survive revolution in E German schools

By Mark Heurich  
Reuter

**EAST BERLIN** — East German schoolchildren enter a new world of academic freedom when classes resume next week, but their teachers will be essentially the same people who drilled home the Communist line a year ago.

Anxious to keep their jobs and classroom credibility, many teachers took "re-education" courses this summer while more than two million West German textbooks were imported to anchor the curriculum for the 1990-91 school year.

But East German education will be dogged by improvisation and an identity crisis for some time. When East Germany ceases to exist under unification with West Germany on Oct. 3, even the

newest geography and history texts will be out of date.

"Seldom in German education history has such an upheaval come into play as that between the start of school in September 1989 and this year," said Education Minister Hans-Joachim Meyer, whose ministry will evaporate on unity day.

"We face extraordinary challenges," he told the country's 200,000 teachers in an article for their weekly newspaper.

For 40 years, East Germany's schools served to breed loyalty to a glorified Socialist state and hostility to a Western world denounced as aggressive, unjust and decadent.

Run for 26 of those years by the wife of Communist leader Erich Honecker, the school system favoured those who supported the party line.

Teachers began reforming

their methods and message but had little but existing Communist texts to work with. Meanwhile, free elections and market economics were transforming East German society at bewildering speed.

Parliament finally passed an educational reform act as the schools limped into summer recess. The watchwords of reform were decentralisation, intellectual honesty, course variety.

Many teachers, above all old Communists who had taught ideologically-loaded subjects such as history and public affairs, took special "re-education" courses at universities and pedagogical institutes here and in West Germany.

"We could not grasp at first that the system we helped sustain, willingly or pro forma, was no more," said Ursula

Tacke, 48, a language teacher. "It was a scramble to adjust."

Her school remains named after a Communist persecuted by the Nazis and a framed party slogan still hangs in the entrance hall.

Margot Ney, editor of an Educational Trade Magazine, said there was no doubt that teachers had accepted the letter of reform: but many, formed by authoritarian attitudes dating to Nazi and Prussian times, had not embraced its spirit.

"Teachers here are still used to being automatically right. It will take time for them to stop treating teaching like a five-year plan to be fulfilled but rather as a give-and-take with pupils as individuals," she said.

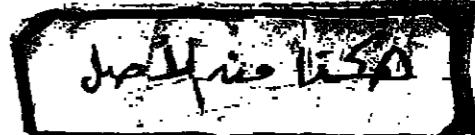
Pupils say they will be keeping a sharp eye on teachers for

any signs of the old heavy-handedness.

"There is a certain mistrust that the new principals still have. They don't want to talk about the past openly and admit they were wrong, but need to discuss them," said Margot Ney, a former teacher.

East Germany's interim government moved to free education of its obvious ideological baggage by firing most senior principals and thousands of teachers found to have been former security police agents or informers.

West Germany chipped in by granting East Berlin 30 million marks (\$19 million) to buy truckloads of textbooks from West German publishers. More than 600 new teachers will be hired by East Germany's 1,000 million schoolchildren.







## Travanti sheds 'the series' on the London stage

By Matt Wolf

The Associated Press

**LONDON** — His fame in the U.S. television show *Hill Street Blues* may have landed Daniel J. Travanti a part on the London stage, but he does not like being reminded of what he calls "that series."

"I will not say its name, and I will not say that character," said Travanti, who played Capt. Frank Furillo in the hit TV police series which ended production in 1987.

But celebrity, he admits, has its rewards: "If I had not had that success, I wouldn't have been asked to do this."

As a result, TV's tightly wound precinct captain can be seen nightly at the Ambassadors Theatre sporting an English accent and aristocratic garb in the long-running play *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

Since June 18, he has been acting the Viscomte de Valmont in Christopher Hampton's award-winning tale of sexual cunning among the French haut monde, inspired by Choderlos de Laclos' 1782 novel.

The play, now in its sixth year, transferred to Broadway in 1987, and spawned the hit 1988 film *Dangerous Liaisons*, with John Malkovich as Valmont.

"I'm all trussed up, and I'm pouring sweat," Travanti said of the assignment, in which he is contracted through Sept. 29.

"Here I am doing a play that's more demanding than anything I've ever done, and on top of everything else, I'm fighting three-and-a-half minute — sometimes four-minute — fight with a 29-year-old, and I'm 50," he said early in the virtual stream-of-consciousness monologue that constitutes an interview with him.

"It's a good thing I'm this healthy and sober and clear and have strong legs and all this energy," he said, sitting in the theatre auditorium one recent afternoon before rehearsal.

As the actor makes clear, such was not always the case. After a promising beginning on the stage in regional theatres around the United States, he took to drink and only faced up to his alcoholism after suffering a breakdown on tour in the paly, *Twigs*, in 1972.

"There never has been," he said, "and you can quote me on that."

**Dame Joan Sutherland to retire on home stage**

By Robert Woodward

Reuter

**SYDNEY** — Dame Joan Sutherland, one of the great sopranos of the 20th century, will make her farewell operatic performance her next month — saying goodbye to the stage in the town where she was born 63 years ago.

The Australian diva, idolized as "la stupenda" by the audience at Milan's La Scala, is due to end her career at the Sydney Opera House on Oct. 2 with a performance of Meyerbeer's *Les Huguenots*.

"I feel it's been such a wonderful career I don't want to go on until somebody starts saying 'I do wish the old girl would get off, she's not what she used to be,'" Sutherland said recently.

"I've got to an age where I don't want that routine or that discipline any more. I want to do things that other people count as everyday," she told a radio interviewer.

Sutherland is ranked with Maria Callas as the most important female influence on opera since World War II, enlarging the repertoire of the soprano to include "Coloratura" roles forgotten since the 19th century.

In the 31 years since she stunned London's Covent Garden with her performance in the title role of Donizetti's *Lucia Di Lammermoor*,

## Bastille Opera besieged

By Clare Pedrick

**PARIS** — Its unkindest critics have likened it to a hippopotamus sitting in a half-size tub.

Others have seen it as yet another monument to the ego of French President Francois Mitterrand, also responsible for the Louvre's glass pyramid and the gargantuan Great Arch at La Defense, in the west of Paris. Rumour has it that the judges in charge of choosing a design from 750 entries managed to mix up the plans and inadvertently awarded the contract to the wrong architect, Uruguayan-born Canadian Carlos Ott.

Besieged by criticism and controversy, the Bastille Opera has gone off to an inauspicious beginning.

The *Liaisons* offer came from the British production's U.S. producer, Frank Gero, who met Travanti 32 years ago in their hometown of Kenosha, Wisconsin.

"I said, 'sure I'd consider it. How long and how much?'" said Travanti, adding with a laugh that he knew the salary was "not going to be much."

There were other enticements.

"Think of the exotic situation," he said. "How many people get asked to go to the West End in an exquisite production? We already know all its strengths. We know there are flaws to speak of."

Travanti's commitment to a film starting Oct. 8 means he cannot stay on in London, but he is considering doing a short tour as Valmont around Europe in 1992.

The casting has had the desired effect at the London box office. Gero said grosses increased by almost 25 per cent in Travanti's first week.

The show is now playing to 75-80 per cent capacity, well above the 54 per cent break-even. Travanti's arrival follows a slack spring during which, Gero said, attendance "was terrible for everybody."

The star, for his part, hopes to continue working on stage. "Now I've got some opportunities, and so what if I'm 50 years-old?" Travanti said. "There's still time. I've got 10 good years to play the great roles."

None of which, he believes, are on television.

"I will not do a crime of the week, a social disorder of the week, or a disease of the week," said Travanti, "and there is almost nothing else to choose from."

"They talk about an important American mini-series, and I say, 'read my lips. Let me explain something to you. There is no such thing as an important American mini-series."

"There never has been," he said, "and you can quote me on that."

**The future of the Bastille Opera remains cloudy**

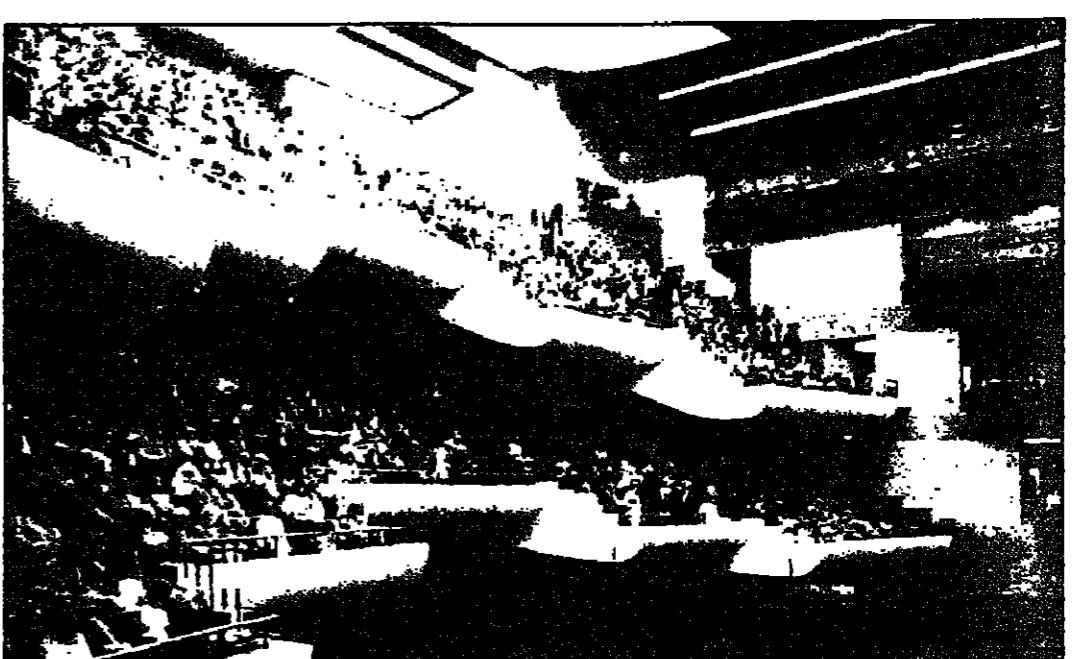
production was not staged until March 1990, and the new opera closed its doors again in May for a seven-month break until November.

The reason for closing so soon after opening is to sort out what Director-General Georges-Francois Hirsch describes as some of the building's "teething problems" and to carry out a full battery of tests on its bewildering array of technological gadgets, some of which have not been behaving as they should.

There have been hiccups with the technology in the gantry and problems with the remote-controlled trolleys designed to shift scenery. There have been difficulties with the synchronization of the computer-controlled elevators which should, in theory, allow the central stage to be arranged on several levels. The restaurant on the panoramic 7th floor has yet to open because no-one has been able to work out a way of stopping diners who are not ticket-holders from gaining access to the auditorium. The "salle modulable," a separate stage area for more contemporary and experimental works, is still a building site. The stage-set and costume workshops have yet to operate.

In spite of the deluge of criticism the new building has attracted, Hirsch remains proud of the fact that it managed to open on schedule. "I was determined not to delay the opening in order to avoid a loss of credibility," he said, swigging Evinrude water from a bottle in his vast high-tech office.

Hirsch has a point: more than once it looked like the



Although it was built to handle 250 different operatic productions a year, the Bastille Opera had to close shortly after opening so a host of problems could be fixed.

directed the Orchestre de Paris for 15 years. In January 1989, after announcing a programme which was to open with *Don Giovanni*, Barenboim was summarily dismissed from his post by the opera's new president, Pierre Berge, the business head of the Yves Saint-Laurent empire and a long-time friend and supporter of Mitterrand. With Barenboim went a host of artistic and managerial staff.

Chirac badly wanted to scrap the project altogether, but his advisors told him it was far too advanced. Endless discussions followed about how the plans could be changed. One idea was to convert the costume and set-design workshop into a hotel complex. Another proposal was to drop the experimental "salle modulable," the theatre space that can be altered by moving the position of the state at will. In the end, the Socialists came back in after two years and set about changing all the alterations back to the original model.

As his parting shot, days before the right was voted out, Chirac named the new opera's music director as Daniel Barenboim, who had

nothing more than teething problems, but the basis is sound," he said. "It is a building that has the capacity to put on a different production almost every day, with excellent acoustics and an auditorium which has 2,700 seats where everyone can see the stage perfectly, regardless of whether they are sitting in the most expensive or cheapest seats."

"It is going to be a great populist opera house, in the sense that it will not just appeal to the traditional opera-going public," he added. "It will also attract audiences who respond to a different kind of programme. The idea is to draw in people who may never have been to an opera in their lives before."

Seat prices are certainly more affordable than those in many opera houses, ranging from a top rate of \$67 down to \$8. Those in the cheapest seats will never be further than 35 metres (130 feet) from the stage and will not have to pay for their thriftness by being stuck behind a pillar.

The same policy has been pursued by acoustics expert Helmut Muller who has carried out exhaustive studies on scaled models to ensure that the sound quality will remain more or less uniform throughout the auditorium. After the building was finished, Muller ordered one of the balconies to be ripped out in order to improve the evenness of the sound. Choir-master Andrea Giorgi has judged the acoustics as having the perfection of a compact disc.

It is hard not to be impressed by the dimensions of the building. The stage, the largest in the world, can be automatically narrowed or widened. The main pros-

ecutive director Hirsch, the former head of the Theatre des Champs Elysees and son of Georges Hirsch who ran the Paris Opera in the late 1940s and 1950s, predicts it will be five to six years before the building can operate at full potential. But he is optimistic that, given time, Mitterrand's dream of a grand-scale opera house will be fulfilled.

"The difficulties we are having at the moment are

spirit of those who had the grit to settle where many said it was uninhabitable.

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Paul Green's story is one of farmers against ranchers and their eventual collaboration to bring the railroad and a new town to the sagebrush.

Where roughneck cowboys sing love ballads that could make a stone blush, and frontiersmen carry enough lone star flags to wallpaper the Alamo.

Where covered wagons roll, open barbecue pits smoke and, if you're lucky, a great western sunset paints the sky with pastels rivaling Monet.

For 25 years these scenes have been brought to life in Texas, a musical extravaganza staged at the heels of a 600-foot (183-metre) cliff guarding America's second-largest canyon. With Palo Duro Canyon as its backdrop and the sky as its lighting, Texas is filled with kickin' dancing, large chorus numbers and costumes straight out of the musical Oklahoma.

While viewers gawk at the earthy scenery, the musical tells a romantic story of courage, a tribute to the pioneer

people here from Tasmania. I would say that was pretty remote."

The musical's officials award a musical triangle to the audience member who has learned to dance. It may be corny but it is absolutely sheer poetry."

Texas was the vision of Margaret Harper, a theatre veteran who read about some of Green's outdoor dramas in a 1960 issue of Reader's Digest. Through her enthusiasm, the Texas Panhandle Heritage Foundation, Inc. commissioned the author to write an outdoor drama for the Lone Star State.

"We are lucky that the public is still eager to come, but luck is a small part of the picture," said Harper. "The main factor is the roots which Texas has — the pride of everyone in the panhandle and the support in every community."

Generous donations and improved marketing have helped the show become one of the state's most popular tourist attractions, Hess said. The Institute of Outdoor Drama in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, lists Texas as America's best-attended outdoor drama.

Jerry Williams, who has

## Cryonics — another quest to triumph over death

By Philippa Neave

BERKELEY, California — Thomas Donaldson, a brilliant 45-year-old mathematician has a malignant tumour that is slowly destroying his exceptional brain. Doctors can't help him. Now Donaldson wants to have his head frozen before the tumour does too much damage. He has started what is becoming a much-publicised court case to gain the right to freeze his own brain before he is clinically dead.

He is convinced that by the time scientists have the technology to unfreeze his brain, they will also be able to use one of its cells to grow him a brand new body: a clone of his former self.

Donaldson would not be lonely out there in the Big Chill. There are 23 people in different locations in America who are "in suspension" — a euphemism meaning they are frozen solid at minus 196 degrees Celsius (-330 degrees Fahrenheit). They also have pets to keep them company, several cats and dogs, and more clients are on the way: about 100 people have signed up to be frozen when they die.

If the prospect of paying

\$125,000 to hang upside down wrapped in plastic in what resembles a large thermos flask full of liquid nitrogen doesn't sound too appealing, some people argue that it's better than ending up as dinner for the worms. "Getting frozen when you die means you don't have to rot," says Dr. Paul Segall, a pioneer of the freezing technique known as cryonics (from the ancient Greek "cryo" meaning very, very cold).

The world is enough to send a shudder down the collective spine of the scientific establishment, which largely dismisses cryonics as a crazy dream born from reading too many science fiction stories. Admits 43-year-old Segall, a Ph.D. in gerontology who was affiliated with the University of California, Berkeley, for years: "Cryonics attracts futuristic people." Now a research consultant for Trans Time Inc., an Oakland-based service company that has 15 people and several animals in suspension, Segall acquired some fame by reportedly freezing his dog and bringing it back to life. Named Miles after the character in Woody Allen's film *The Sleeper*, where a man wakes up after

being frozen for 200 years, Segall's little beagle seems as healthy as ever, unaware of the fame that his reported trip "to the other side" brought him.

Some animals do it naturally, Segall points out: "There are certain frogs that spend the entire winter in a partly frozen state; as the weather gets colder, their bodies start producing massive quantities of glycerol and glucose which act as an anti-freeze. They can survive months at temperatures as low as -4 or -6 degrees Centigrade."

The process used to freeze humans that was performed on the unsuspecting Miles is not for the squeamish. First Segall and a team of nine scientists put the dog to sleep. They drained the blood from his entire body. Then they injected a blood substitute, a simple chemical mixture that acts as anti-freeze, and gradually cooled the animal down with packs of ice, bringing the body temperature close to freezing point. No more heart beat or brain activity. Then, says Segall, 79 minutes later, the team gradually warmed him up, put his blood back in and Miles woke up, a little groggy from the anaesthetic

but alive.

The experiment was a breakthrough for cryonics buffs and a result of years of research by Segall to develop a blood substitute that can protect cells from frost damage. Considering that the human body is 60 to 80 per cent water, and since water expands when it freezes, damage caused to the cells when warmup occurs can be devastating. Cryonic science has not progressed enough to prevent this in the bodies currently in suspension, but people hope that the knowledge will come.

The other question is that since it is illegal to freeze someone before he is clinically dead, chances are that even if he or she can be brought back, they are going to be in a pretty sorry state. "You ask what's the point of bringing back an 85-year-old sick man?" continues Segall. "Think of an old 1950s Chevrolet you might like: You get a new engine, new transmission and just dump it in. Then you give the body a work over and there you go. We'll be doing the same with people."

What do you do for spare parts? "Grow them," says Segall. He dismisses visions of

neat rows of kidneys growing like aubergines in the field. "We will develop a body clone," he explains. "Taking the nucleus of a cell from the body, we will grow a human body to adult size and use the organs for transplant." Scientists can already grow almost limitless quantities of a person's skin, he notes, predicting that it won't be much more than 10 years before scientists start trying to grow human clones.

Segall is not worried that the world would become overcrowded if cryonics really catch on, because not many people will be able to afford it: "It's expensive. A complete make-over would cost up to \$100,000. But people can start saving up for a clone of themselves."

A capsule some 7 feet by 10 feet holds 10 people. So far Trans Time is storing its frozen clients in a warehouse in an industrial part of Oakland. "It's crowded down here, but there's plenty of room up there," Segall says, explaining that clusters of capsules could be sent into space. "It will be an outer-space storage facility, a cryo-cosmic satellite." It seems that several people have been working on designs

for such facilities since the late 1960s, when the idea of cryonics first took off.

In fact cryonics might open up a whole new area of work opportunities, not only for scientists, laboratory technicians and surgeons. "We'll have capsule keepers. They will be the grave keepers of the future," Segall says.

Advances in cryonic technology have important applications in present day medicine, in particular low-temperature surgery for which doctors are using new techniques to cool patients' bodies down in order to slow blood circulation and allow surgery.

A similar technique may soon help cancer victims, according to Segall. "Imagine someone with cancer of the liver. You chill the patient down, remove his blood and inject a blood substitute. Then you isolate and warm only the liver area and circulate warm blood carrying a large dose of anti-cancer agent. This attacks the tumour but does not reach and intoxicate other parts of the body."

By selling the patent of his blood substitute to a pharmaceutical company, Segall has raised over \$5 million worth of equity. But he will



Paul Segall, an expert in cryonics, says he froze his dog, Miles, and brought him back to life.

need more to forge ahead: An experiment like that performed on Miles costs about \$12,000.

Cryonics may seem just another quest by humans to

triumph over death. True, Segall says, "but there's a new twist to this. This time we've got what no other civilisation ever had: science" — World News Link.

## Babies start learning about language before birth — studies

By Malcolm Ritter  
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Babies start learning their future language even before they are born, a researcher says.

Studies have discovered that, beginning in the womb, babies recognise speech as a special sound and can distinguish between spoken passages, psychology Professor Anthony Decasper said recently.

In one study, 24 newborns were exposed to the sound of a heartbeat and of a woman speaking. They were able to choose which ear would prefer to hear which sound by varying the intensity in which they sucked a pacifier.

Babies chose to hear speech in the right ear and the heartbeat in the left ear, indicating they were already processing speech differently from other sound, Decasper said.

"What it shows is, at birth, there is some 'knowledge' of the language of the culture," he said.

Decasper, a psychology professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, presented his findings at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association earlier this month.

It is not clear whether the experience of hearing the mother's voice in the womb contributes to the development of the right-ear preference, he said.

## Butter clogs warehouses as Americans shun fat, cholesterol

By Lorrie Grant  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Americans' growing aversion to fat and cholesterol is depositing mountains of unwanted butter at government warehouses across the country.

Practices are also changing in the baking industry, where more and more firms are shunning butter in order to produce low-fat and cholesterol-free products.

"A lot of people are aware consumers are seeking low-fat bakery food and are making a concerted effort to provide that product," said Peter Hoste of the industry group retail bakers of America.

Storing the unwanted butter is the task of the U.S. Department of Agriculture,

which supports milk producers by buying dairy products that cannot be sold commercially.

While federal stocks of "healthful" dairy products such as low-fat milk have fallen, a stubborn butter surplus remains.

As of early July, 178 million kilograms of it were stockpiled, the Agriculture Department says.

Some 18 million kilograms of that total will be used

ter, non-fat dry milk and cheese," said department dairy analyst Charles Shaw.

The food manufacturing sector, including bakeries, takes up roughly 39 per cent of annual butter sales, according to the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board. Restaurants and cafeterias absorb about 35 per cent, leaving individual consumers to account for the rest.

But demand for the traditional rich spread has been melting away because of public concerns about cholesterol and fat, a correspondingly greater use of margarine and other substitutes, and higher prices.

Some bakeries say that while certain recipes work better with butter, health con-

cerns compel the use of substitutes.

"We are using more margarine than butter," said Robert Artuso, who has run a small family bakery in New York for 25 years and made the margarine switch only recently.

"It's cheaper, easier to work with and doesn't affect the finished product," Artuso said.

Entenmann's Inc., owned by Philip Morris's Kraft General Foods Unit, has unveiled an entire butter-free line of pastries which sell alongside its original buttered line.

Continental Baking Co., maker of Wonder Bread and the Hostess Line of products, used to use animal fat —

rather than butter — but shifted two years ago to vegetable oil in order to make a cholesterol-free product.

But Sara Lee Corp., a major maker of frozen baked goods, has stayed with butter.

"There have been some pressures but we have not pulled any butter out of our formulation," a spokesman said.

The government knows that as long as customers want lower fat it cannot fully encourage greater use of butter. But it does believe it can encourage some additional use by changing the price it pays for the butter producers.

"The Agriculture Department has been trying to adjust the value of butter," said Shaw. "But if you lower the price, the butter producers will be less likely to sell it." Get the price low enough, they say, and it may win some bakers and shoppers back to butter despite health concerns.

value of the fat component of whole milk, then you have to make an offsetting increase in the non-fat component so that the farmer is still getting the full price of the milk.

"As we have lowered the butter price to 98.25 cents from \$1.0925 (a pound), we had to also raise the price of non-fat dry milk to 85 cents from 79 cents."

While farmers tinker with cows' diets to try to make milk with a lower fat content, industry analysts say the government has to establish support prices closer to what the market wants.

Get the price low enough, they say, and it may win some bakers and shoppers back to butter despite health concerns.

## Chinese doctors help infertile couples

By Janet Snyder  
Reuter

PEKING — The vast majority of Chinese may face stiff penalties if they exceed their limit of one child per family, but there is help for those who can't have even that one child.

"There is no contradiction between China's birth control policy and our trying to help women have babies," said Dr. Xia Wenzuan, a 56-year-old gynaecologist who runs Peking's largest infertility clinic.

They chose the familiar story, Decasper said. "We're talking about recognition of linguistically relevant speech sounds," he said. "The implication is that fetuses heard, perceived, listened and learned about something about the acoustic structure of American English," he said.

"infertility is a disease, and its our duty to treat disease."

The woman, six months pregnant, said she had suffered two miscarriages and had nearly lost hope of having a child.

"My husband and I were so sad. We were trying to have a baby for five years and it looked impossible," she said. Xia said most of her patients came to her after one or two years of trying without success to have a child.

Childlessness bears a particular stigma in Chinese society. Nagging mothers-in-law have been known to encourage sons to divorce a wife who fails to produce an heir.

"Rarely do they stop to think that maybe it's the man

who is sterile," said one housewife. Xia said her clinic tests sperm counts and other data to ascertain whether this is the case.

She displayed a photograph album full of pictures of babies she has helped bring into the world following fertility treatment. She said about 30 to 40 per cent of the women she treats are able to give birth.

China's birth control policy generally dictates one child per couple. Exceptions are made for minorities and for rural households that can prove severe economic need.

The Communist government has made a major reversal on its family planning policy since coming to power in

1949. The late Chairman Mao Tsetung told the Chinese to have as many children as possible to build the nation.

But after his death, Chinese authorities, alarmed by the country's population explosion, reversed direction and called on couples to limit their offspring to one.

Couples who try to skirt the rules and have more than their quota are heavily fined.

But the government acknowledges the right of each couple to have that one pre-scribed child and Xia's clinic enjoys full political support, she said.

In a city where the average wage is about \$37 a month, the bills for fertility treatment are astronomical.

One treatment involves sending an electric current through gauze bags of herbs placed on the patient's stomach above the ovaries.

Although Chinese traditionally are loath to break the skin in their medical treatment, operations to correct infertility are done — but only as a last resort, Xia said.

"When a woman's fallopian tubes are blocked, we try to treat it," said Xia. "If her one child dies and she's had a tubal ligation, we try to reverse it."

Reconstruction of the fallopian tubes is a delicate operation requiring microsurgery, and the success rate is known to be low.

## U.S. adolescents risking harm to build muscles with steroids

By Deborah Mese  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than 250,000 adolescents, mostly boys, have used steroids to build muscles and enhance athletic performance at the risk of physical and psychological harm, U.S. health officials said Friday.

Though non-medical use of anabolic steroids is illegal, the number of teen-agers using them is believed to be growing, according to a report by the Department of Health and Human Services inspector general.

The report recommended the department develop a national educational programme to increase awareness of the hazards of steroid use.

"I am very concerned that

some adults who are charged with our young people's welfare might be passively accepting or even tacitly approving the use of these dangerous drugs," Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan said in a statement.

Sullivan said an interagency task force has been formed to look into new approaches to stemming the abuse of steroids.

Also, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is conducting and educational campaign targeted at young athletes and their coaches, he said, and the department is launching a new public affairs campaign on the issue.

In the best-known case of steroid use by an athlete, Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson lost his gold medal in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul when he tested positive. He was disqualified and barred from competing for two years.

Also during those Olympic Games, several weightlifters from various countries tested positive for steroids and were sent home.

Professional sports is also dealing with the problem.

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dealing with the problem.

Professional sports is also

dealing with the problem.

The experts said adolescents whose bodies are still developing are at special risk for some adverse effects of steroid use, including stunted growth, mood changes and long-term dependence.

The report issued Friday by Inspector General Richard Kusserow estimated that 262,000 students in grades 7 through 12 used or have used steroids, based on a 1989 survey by the National Institute

of Drug Abuse.

The number of users appears to be increasing, the report said, basing its conclusion on interviews with 30 experts and 72 current or former steroid users.

More than half of the users said they had started using steroids by age 16, and 85 per cent said they had started by age 17. All but one said they used injectable steroids.

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MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Australian scientists say the use of a super microscope will allow researchers to conduct the most detailed





## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

## Iraq misses \$2.8m loan repayment

LONDON (R) — Iraq failed to make a \$2.8 million loan repayment to the World Bank in August and said it could not transfer the money until the Gulf crisis was over, a World Bank official said Tuesday. The payment had been caught up in the international freeze on Iraqi funds imposed after Baghdad's takeover of Kuwait and the World Bank would have to set aside loan loss reserves if no money was received by Dec. 15, he said. The funds, part of repayment due on total debt to the bank of \$47 million dating back as far as the 1960s, were, however, already 60 days overdue in August when Baghdad said they could not be paid "until the current crisis is over."

## Albania announces big wage rises

VIENNA (R) — Communist Albania has announced wage rises of up to 20 per cent to help boost production and its stagnating economy, Europe's poorest. The state news agency ATA said Wednesday measures approved by the council of ministers would raise average monthly pay to about 570 leks (\$57) from \$53 (\$2.3) and ensure a minimum monthly income of 450 leks (\$45). The rises, of up to 20 per cent for those on the lowest incomes, apply to 642,000 workers in industry, agriculture and other sectors of the economy and take effect Oct. 1. Albania has a population of just over three million. Albania, Europe's last Orthodox Communist state, has begun cautious political and economic reforms this year, including a relaxation of centralised economic controls and limited foreign investment. President Ramiz Alia has said economic change will take priority in the reform process, reflecting what diplomats say is his concern over discontent about low living standards.

## Romania wants compensation

BUCHAREST (AP) — A high-ranking government official has said Romania should be compensated for losses incurred during the Gulf crisis. Deputy Foreign Minister Ionut Neagu told the state news agency Rompres that Romania will lose \$2.9 billion because of its adherence to the U.N. embargo of Iraq. He said Romania has lost \$1.2 billion in suspended contracts with Iraq and Iraq has cut off payments on its \$1.7 billion debt to Romania. Neagu said the losses "directly affect more than 100,000 (Romanian) workers whose incomes are now in jeopardy."

## Belgian minister assails oil companies

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian Budget Minister Hugo Schiltz has accused oil companies of taking advantage of the Gulf crisis to boost their profits by slowing deliveries of crude oil cargoes. "Deliveries are being deliberately delayed in the hope of makingurious profits at the expense of the populace and the public treasury," Schiltz said in an interview in the Echo De La Bourse daily newspaper. Oil companies were trying to exaggerate delays in crude oil transport despite the fact that production and supplies had remained virtually normal since the United Nations put an embargo on Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil, he said. The minister called for concerted European action to put an end to such practices. There was no immediate comment from the Belgian oil federation. According to European Community statistics 8.6 per cent of Belgium's oil came from Iraq in 1989, and none from Kuwait.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, September 12, 1990 Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	Japanese yen (for 100)	474.6	477.4
U.S. dollar	658.0	662.0	Dutch guilder	367.4	369.6
Pound Sterling	1222.8	1230.1	Swedish crown	113.1	113.8
Deutschmark	414.0	415.5	Italian lira (for 100)	53.6	53.9
Swiss franc	496.7	499.7	Belgian franc (for 10)	201.2	202.4
French franc	123.7	124.4			

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.8615/25	U.S. dollar	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1609/19	Deutschmarks	Dutch guilders
	1.5833/40	Swiss francs	Belgian francs
1.7847/57	5.3040/90	French francs	Italian lire
1.3180/90	1181/1182	Japanese yen	Swedish crowns
32.61/66	137.80/90	Swedish crowns	Norwegian crowns
6.0400/50	5.7950/8000	Danish crowns	U.S. dollars
One ounce of gold	380.35/380.85		

## TO DAY AT

Cinema Tel: 677420  
CONCORD  
Dured Lahham  
Madeline Taber  
In  
**1-KAFROUN**  
3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45 P.M.  
**2-SENIOR WEEK**  
5:15, p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571  
GIANT REVENGE  
Amitabh Bachhan  
In  
**GIANT REVENGE**  
Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00 p.m.  
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

## Top banker belittles oil shock fears

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — Western industrial nations are better placed to deal with the sharp jump in oil prices caused by the Gulf crisis than they were in the 1970s, the Bank of France governor has said.

Jacques de Larosiere said tight monetary policies pursued by Western central banks in the past three years had helped moderate money supply growth and dampen inflation, and commodity prices had been flat except for oil.

"All those are positive factors which make it easier for our industrial countries to absorb in a non-inflationary way the consequences of this situation," he told reporters.

De Larosiere said the current situation was much healthier than in the 1970s an 1979 oil shocks, when inflation had been accelerating and money supply expanding before oil prices jumped.

Echoing European Community finance ministers who met in Rome Saturday, central bankers agreed monetary policy should not be relaxed to offset the impact of soaring oil prices, a senior Western official said.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said there was bound to be a transfer of wealth from the oil consuming nations to the oil producers, made richer by higher oil revenues.

EC finance ministers made clear at the weekend that monetary policy would have to remain restrictive, oil price rises would be passed on directly to consumers, and wage restraint was vital to avoid a wave of unemployment.

"We've learned some hard lessons from the past, I think we'll spend it wisely," said Bank Duta economist Anwar Nasution.

The government is not so sure. Inflation is already running at an annual rate of more than seven per cent so far this year compared to five per cent target.

"We're walking a tightrope. By building roads, port and so on, you spend more money which will increase inflation," said the official, who noted also the need to increase employment.

## Oil price jump brings dilemma to Indonesia

JAKARTA (R) — The leap in oil prices caused by the Gulf crisis is a welcome windfall for Indonesia, the only Asian member of OPEC, but the problem is how to spend the money.

"With the additional oil money, we will be able to increase spending but we must ensure it won't create inflationary pressures," a senior government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told Reuters.

The government's budget for the current fiscal year to next March is based on a barrel of oil fetching \$16.50, nearly \$10 less than the current market price.

At current production in Indonesia, every extra dollar in the world oil price is worth about \$500 million a year.

"The government has no choice but to improve the infrastructure," said Hartijo Wigjowijoto, who heads private consultant P.T. Aspecindo Kreasi.

He pointed to the country's inadequate capacity to deal with the demands of rapid economic growth.

Ports and roads are congested. The telephone system is so poor, bankers say, it constrains development of domestic financial markets. Even a seat on a flight to Jakarta and hotel room, once there, are hard to find.

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"We're walking a tightrope. By building roads, port and so on, you spend more money which will increase inflation," said the official, who noted also the need to increase employment.

"Maybe we can cope with seven per cent but double digit inflation would be hard... it would definitely have an impact on the balance of payments," he said.

Indonesia needs an improved infrastructure so it can in turn push along exports other than oil and gas.

That push has successfully slashed the percentage of oil and gas of total exports in the past five years to 30 per cent from around 60 per cent.

But the pace of non-oil export growth has lately been less dynamic. Latest figures show a drop in February to \$1.03 billion out of total exports of \$1.81 billion.

"Non-oil export growth has been less than expected," said a foreign economist. "I'm not sure whether it's because of slower demand from overseas or increased demand for local needs."

There is also the worry that very high oil prices in the long-term will damage Indonesia's export markets cancelling out gains from oil and gas exports.

He cautioned against any spending spree on projects before proper development programmes can be established.

"Also you can't always speed things up just with more financing," he pointed out.

He suggested the administrative bottlenecks which plague the country's projects could be best reduced by making it financially attractive for a more efficient private sector to join some of them.

The most alluring target would be the country's more than \$50 billion foreign debt.

"They could pay off debts early which would lower the debt service ratio (of around 30 per cent) and let them borrow more in the future," he said.

Ramadan meets Indian politician, underlines need to address rich-poor imbalance

## Iraq says oil producers should offer special prices to Third World

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter



means to balance the situation was cheaper oil for the Third World," according to Faleiro.

Ramadan's pointed focus on Third World economies and the oil market situation appears to bear evidence that Iraq was pursuing a well-calculated strategy to garner maximum backing from the developing world for Iraq in its confrontation with the U.S.

Faleiro said Ramadan also promised that all Indian expatriates working in Kuwait would be allowed to withdraw their bank deposits "in full," and that Baghdad "will honour and protect all rights of Indian workers in Kuwait."

"He guaranteed the fulfillment of all (contractual and employment) obligations to Indian workers undertaken by the (toppled emir) government, including gratuity and severance pay," Faleiro said.

However, there was no clear indication whether the Iraqi government, which has declared Kuwait as Iraq's 19th province, will allow expatriates who left Kuwait after Aug. 23 to return. Indians who arrived here during the past three weeks have reported cancellation of their visas, which denies them entry.

A highly reliable Iraqi source said last month that all foreigners who left Kuwait after Aug. 23 will have to secure new visas and related documents if they wanted to return. Indians who arrived here during the past three weeks have reported cancellation of their visas, which denies them entry.

In his talks Tuesday, Ramadan also "affirmed that his country did not have any objection to Indian aircraft flying to any Iraqi airport to take home Indian nationals" stranded in Kuwait and Iraq, according to Faleiro. "This offer is unconditional," he added.

This statement came in direct contrast with Indian government assertions that Baghdad had told New Delhi that any direct evacuation of its nationals from Kuwait and Iraq was contingent on India supplying food and medicine to its nationals in Iraq and Kuwait.

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